



PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY  
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ALEXANDRIA:  
MONDAY MORNING, MARCH 22, 1858.

**Important from Richmond.**  
A telegraphic despatch from our Delegate in Richmond, informs us of the passage by both branches of the Legislature, of the bill making an appropriation of \$800,000 to the Covington and Ohio Railroad. This bill is now a law.

The bills making appropriations of \$400,000 to the Orange and Alexandria; \$300,000 to the Alexandria, Loudoun and Hampshire; \$250,000 to the Manassas Gap; and \$250,000 to the Norfolk and Petersburg Railroads, have all passed the House of Delegates, and no doubt is entertained that they will pass the Senate to-day.

We congratulate the people of Alexandria, especially, and the friends of the various improvements throughout the State, on this gratifying result.

#### Next Expedition to Liberia.

We learn that the Mary Caroline Stevens, the Colonization Society's packet to Liberia, will leave Baltimore, for Monrovia, the first of May. This has been a fortunate ship, having, besides supplying the Colony with emigrants, cleared the last year upwards of eight thousand dollars for the Society's objects. Her whole management has been excellent, and her success complete. This is very encouraging to our fellow citizens, who are in the habit of contributing to the funds of the Society. Probably, no institution in the land has more economically applied the gifts entrusted to it for benevolent purposes; certainly none more usefully. All fears of "famine," once reported, have been dissipated. Preparations have been abundantly made for the reception of future emigrants, and many desire to set sail for the land of promise. One striking evidence of the strong hold this Society has on the confidence and affection of the American people, is the fact of the increase of the contributions to its objects last year, while there was a considerable diminution, generally, in the receipts of other benevolent Societies. But this year, it is thought, will witness a favorable reaction in all cases, and we may expect the Colonization Society will share largely in the benevolent offerings of the people, especially of the people of the South, who originated the institution, and who have never deserted it. A long career of prosperity is before it, if it shall continue to adhere to the fundamental principles of its constitution, as we are assured it will, and if it confine itself, as it certainly must, to the work of fulfilling the design of its founders.

The French police, after the explosion of the late attempt to kill the Emperor, have, through the statements, acknowledgements, and confessions of the parties implicated, been able to furnish a full account of the conspiracy.—We publish enough of the indictment prepared from the materials furnished by the police, to give an idea of the whole plan and proceedings of the would-be assassins. It is a part of the history of the times and curious enough. An American can hardly realize how such means could be resorted to, in order to overturn a government. The idea of blowing a man up with a bomb, to effect a revolution, is, to us, as unpalatable as it is atrocious. The legal, peaceful votes of the people effect greater changes in "men and measures" here, than can be brought about in some European countries, by the sudden destruction of a dynasty, or the murder of Emperors and Kings.

Gen. Calhoun, of Kansas, in a letter to the Washington Star, announces, that the "Delaware Crossing" precinct poll is fraudulent, and that he has therefore, given the certificates of election to the free State delegates to the Legislature of Kansas from Leavenworth on duty. This gives the free state the majority in the Legislature—and, if Kansas is admitted, we presume, sends two Black Republican Senators to Congress from the new state. We sincerely regret this result.

Our readers will have seen by our report of the proceedings of the House of Representatives, last Friday, that the bill reported from the Committee on Military Affairs, by Gen. Quitman, authorizing the President to call out one regiment of volunteers for the defence of the Texan frontier, and four regiments for employment in Utah, if their services shall be needed, passed that body by a substantial majority.

What can the Legislature of Massachusetts expect from the conservative portion of the people of this country, of all sections, and all parties, for its action in demanding the removal of Judge Loring, but scorn and contempt? A Judge to be removed because he obeys the law, and acts according to his oath!

The Washington States says:—"It is understood that the committee appointed to investigate the charges against Mr. O. B. Mattoon, of New York, will report against any further action being taken, as the majority agree that the House has no power or jurisdiction in the case."

We have received from Messrs. James Entwistle & Son, the April number of Harper's Magazine, noticed by us on Saturday. The present number contains a continuation of "Thackeray's Virginians, Tropical Journeys, Pictures from Siberia and Tartary, and other very interesting articles."

By arrangement, it was understood, that the time of both Houses of Congress, on Saturday last, would be taken up with speeches on the Kansas question.

A letter dated Richmond, Friday evening, says:—"The Covington and Ohio Railroad bill, is up to-day. All will be settled, I suppose, to-morrow. Result very doubtful. We are progressing rapidly, and will do a good deal. The bill for the relief of John T. Edl was ordered to be engrossed. Hope to get him out by Monday or Tuesday."

We learn from the Petersburg Express that an interview was held in that city, on Tuesday, between Edmund Ruffin, esq., of the Executive Committee of the State Agricultural Society, and a committee of the Union Agricultural Society, the result of which was an arrangement, not fully matured, to hold the next State Fair in Petersburg.

Nathan Jackson, esq., of New York, has celebrated his 78th birthday, by making a gift to Williams College, Massachusetts, of \$14,000 in cash, and nine acres of land, with suitable buildings thereon, adjoining the College grounds in Williamstown, for which he paid \$6,000 in addition, though the land is worth more than its original cost.

The paragraph which has been going the rounds that the Interior Department has made arrangements for the purchase of Burton's theatre in New York city for the purpose of holding the United States Courts therein, is not correct. Proposals are before the Secretary offering the theatre named to the Government, but no decision has yet been made as to their acceptance.

The leaders of the Republican party, in Congress, are making efforts thoroughly to organize that party in the North and West. They are sending Circulars to that effect broadcast.

The late "fight" in the New York Legislature, is thought to be a small affair, when compared with the recent scenes in the Senate and House of Representatives. We have "fallen upon evil times."

The Union still asserts that, in a full house, the passage of the Kansas bill is certain in the House of Representatives.

J. P. Cox, T. G. Downing, and R. S. Kinney, of Virginia, have been appointed Cadets at the Military Academy at West Point.

Efforts are making by some in Washington, to prevent the confirmation of Mr. Selden, as Marshal of the District of Columbia.

#### Letter from Washington.

Correspondence of the Alexandria Gazette.

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 20, 1858.—The Kansas question still occupies the attention of both Houses of Congress. Mr. Foster, of Connecticut, made a speech against Leconte, and was followed by Mr. Clay, of Alabama, who made an eloquent speech in favor of the measure. He commented on the principles of the Republican party, as laid down in their platform, and looked forward to what must be the result should that party come in possession of the power of this Government. The State of Alabama, he said, has considered this matter calmly, and has declared that she will or ought to resist any action of Congress upon the subject of slavery in the District of Columbia, or any attempt to assume jurisdiction incompatible with the domestic tranquility of the South. Two other speeches were made; Mr. Wilson, of Mass., speaks to-day.

In the House, Mr. Montgomery, of Pennsylvania, spoke against the admission of Kansas under the Leconte Constitution. In defining the phrase "domestic institutions," he said that a bank was as much an institution as slavery itself. There was not a member on the floor who would say that domestic institutions did not include the relations of husband and wife, parent and child, as well as master and servant. He declared the Kansas Constitution to be illegal, and held that the Kansas-Nebraska act was repealed by it. This speech was considered a very able one by the Anti-Leconteans. He was followed by Mr. Rogers, of Texas, who confined his remarks principally to the general question of Kansas-Slavery agitation, which he considered as one of the acts of the great drama. It was his belief that the next President of the United States would be elected by the Black Republicans, and they ought to be prepared to meet the issue.

Mr. Letcher, of Va., who reported the Deficiency bill, explained at the end of his length, the different items of it. The entire deficiency amounted to \$8,700,000. The entire deficiency was considered a very able one by the Anti-Leconteans. He was followed by Mr. Rogers, of Texas, who confined his remarks principally to the general question of Kansas-Slavery agitation, which he considered as one of the acts of the great drama. It was his belief that the next President of the United States would be elected by the Black Republicans, and they ought to be prepared to meet the issue.

Mr. Letcher will receive, as he deserves, the approbation of all right thinking men, by setting this example to his brother members; and if the resolution that was offered by Mr. Warren, of Arkansas, some weeks ago, had been adopted, (which was to confine members strictly to the merits of the bill under consideration while in Committee of the Whole,) we would not have had so many of these stale and worn-out speeches on Kansas.

I was much pleased to notice in your paper, several communications recommending Alexandria as a suitable place for the establishment of a National Foundry. I have conversed with Hons. John Letcher, Wm. Smith, H. Edmundson, and several others of the Virginia delegation, besides a few members from other States, and they enter warmly into the project. With the influence of the delegation from the old Dominion, I think it can be easily passed in the House. There may, possibly, be opposition to it by members of the delegation, but he will, I think, be the only one. The measure will be introduced in the Senate by one of our Senators, Mr. Hunter, probably.

Alexandria is certainly the very place for the establishment of the Foundry, possessing, as it does, all the advantages necessary to it, carrying on such an establishment. These advantages can, and will, soon be put into operation, and it will not be long before it will be the most extensive of its kind in the country.

Muhammad Pasha, and suite, are the lions of the great Metropolis, and are the observed of all observers. They have paid their respects to the President, and have waited upon all the Secretaries, where they have been kindly received. They visit Mount Vernon next week.

Mr. Gajani is delivering a course of lectures at the Smithsonian Institution. His last lecture was on the "Coliseum of Rome." His lectures have been highly spoken of.

Miss Lizzie Petit, the beautiful and accomplished Virginia authoress, who has been reading Shakespeare to fashionable audiences at the North, will give a series of lectures on the Kansas question.

#### News of the Day.

"To show the very age and body of the Times."

It appears by a correspondence published in the London papers, that the Porte is endeavoring to purge Turkey of a horde of Italian malefactors, who had become the scourge of society. It appears that they were sent to America, Australia; but whether because there is more room or more virtue in those countries, the imperial clerk does not explain. There are eight hundred of these malefactors to be disposed of, by throwing them upon the generosity of other nations.—America is the "asylum of the oppressed;" but it does not follow that she should become the work-house for all the vagabonds of Europe.

The Belfast (Ireland) Banner states that the ensuing season is expected to be less favorable for emigration than any for several years past, owing to the unpromising condition of commerce and manufactures in the United States. Within the last six months more persons have returned to Belfast from New York than sailed direct for that port during 1857. There are but two vessels of any length there at present for America—one for New York, and the other for Quebec. A few years since there would have been a score at the corresponding date.

Mr. Bernheisel, the delegate from Utah, has had a speech prepared for some weeks, which he proposed to make in the House, in reply to the positions taken in debate, and by the President, against the government of that Territory. For some reason he has lately concluded to withhold it. He is confident in the belief that if the Administration understood the subject they would be more tender in their treatment of the Mormons.

The present month has brought a large accession to the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, and the whole of the Company's immense motive power have been fully occupied in giving despatch to the large amount of freight offering for transportation. A very considerable portion of this business has been brought on to the main stem by the Northwestern Virginia branch from steamboats landing and receiving freight at Parkersburg.

The Sacramento (Cal.) Union of February 12th, says: "A Chinaman visited the fish market at the foot of I street, and paid \$250 for the privilege of throwing overboard fifty-five fish. In explanation of this singular order, he stated that on that day, a year or two since, he was wrecked with some eighty of his countrymen and thirty white men; that he was the only Chinaman that survived, and that he then made a vow that he would release fifty-five fish on each succeeding anniversary of the day."

The notorious Marcus Cicero Stanley, who was recently arrested in New York, for selling Lottery Policies, has sought to turn the tables upon the parties on whose testimony he was arrested, by making a complaint against them of conspiracy to take his life. The case was before the Recorder last week, when evidence of police, Geo. W. Matzell, the veteran police officer Robert Bwyer and others, testified that they would not believe Marcus under oath. The exhibit testified that Stanley was a bad man, that at various times he had caused the arrest of notorious thieves, and that he had the thieves arrested because they would not divide with him. The text only went to show that Mr. Stanley's associates were of rather more than suspicious character. The Recorder reversed his decision.

Last Saturday, a large number of women, who had previously armed themselves with axes, hatchets and hammers, made an attack upon the tavern and saloons of Akron, Ohio, breaking jugs and bottles, and emptying casks of all sorts of liquor, &c. Every establishment in the place was thus despoiled, except the American House and a drug store, the proprietors of which "saved their bacon" by pledging their "words of honor" not to sell liquor to any of the townspeople. One of the town magistrates interposed in vain.

An entertainment on a magnificent scale has been projected in New York, in aid of the Hunter Woods Benevolent Society, which is freely distributing bread to the poor of that place, at the Crystal Palace, which is to be gorgeously decorated with banners, national flags and five thousand jets of gas. April 6th is fixed for the fête. This will be the third great charity frolic in New York this season.

On Tuesday last Wm. E. Taylor, esq., of Norfolk, being at his Willoughby Point farm, observed an extraordinary large shoal of fish within the little bay which forms his fishing ground, and ordering the seine to be run out, succeeded in catching sixty four rockfish of enormous size, some of them 4½ feet long and weighing one hundred pounds! The shoal was estimated to be worth \$100, and they were immediately shipped to Baltimore and New York.

A few weeks ago, the discovery at Nismes, in France, of the fifty-first Asteroid, a small planet revolving between the orbits of Mars and Jupiter, was announced—the first discovered in 1858. But last week, a circular from the Paris Observatory stated that, on the 4th of February, yet another, or the fifty-second, had been detected in that city by Mr. Gouldschmidt.

The Cincinnati Commercial of Thursday says:—"The tariff of freight rates on the Ohio and Mississippi road has been materially reduced. On and after this day, freight charges will be transported from Cincinnati to the Ohio and Mississippi Depot in St. Louis, for twenty-five cents per hundred weight."

The Newark Daily Advertiser says the Sheriff of Newark advertises for sale the entire village of Malaga, in New Jersey. It consists of more than 5,000 acres of land, with glass works, mills, and dairy dwelling houses. The village exhibits a scene of desolation and abandonment so complete and thorough as to be rarely exceeded.

According to the Chicago Democrat, the attempt to establish direct communication between Chicago and Liverpool, by sailing vessels, has failed. Mr. Kershaw, the gentleman who spent the most money in striving to accomplish it, having given it up in despair, after losing large sums of money in it. The proprietors of the White Sulphur Springs (Greenbrier county, Va.) are adding to their present improvements an immense hotel. Messrs. Lupton & Thomas, of Baltimore, are engaged in doing the plumbing, &c.

The late John Avery Parker, a successful merchant of New Bedford, was at one time "warned" to leave Weymouth, Massachusetts, under the old law or custom of warning strangers who were likely to become a public charge. He died worth \$1,300,000.

Rev. John M. Peck, "one of the most useful men that the Mississippi valley has ever known," died near St. Louis on the 16th inst. He was a resident of St. Louis, and a Baptist minister in 1818.

Orders were received at the Gosport Navy Yard, a day or two since, to fit out with despatch the Sloop-of-war Saratoga, the Ship Frigate, and the Brig Bainbridge.

#### History of the French Conspiracy.

The London Express has received and published a copy of the indictment preferred against the prisoners charged with the attempt to assassinate the Emperor Louis Napoleon, of France.

The latest declarations made by the accused who are present in France, declarations made under the pressure of the accumulated proofs against them, enables us to trace the origin, and follow the development of the plot which ended in the attempt of January 30th, 1858, to assassinate the Emperor as he passed through the Tuilleries. The project was communicated to Bernad, and to the Englishman Alloué; some overtures are said to have been made to an Italian, named Carlozzi. In June of that year Gomez, passing through Birmingham, saw Pierri, and received from him a letter of recommendation for Orsini, who was then in London. Supposing it to be true as Gomez affirms, that this was the first occasion on which he saw Orsini, it cannot be doubted that this recommendation given by Pierri was connected with the design then already in contemplation. In October 1857 Gomez having met Orsini and Bernad in a street in London, the former asked him to call upon him at No. 2 Grafton street. "During this visit," says Gomez, "Orsini told him that the Prophet, (meaning Orsini) was losing his power, and that all his efforts only ended in getting a man shot to no purpose; and then he proposed to him to join in a plan which he (Orsini) had invented, to get up a rising in Italy."

From this period they began to consider how to get some one made with which to kill the Emperor. Orsini had a model made in wood by a turner, but, being a foreigner, it was feared that he would not easily find a manufacturer in England who would make the real shells, and consequently the task was confided to a certain Allop, an Englishman, who was called to London, and the whole of the Company's immense motive power have been fully occupied in giving despatch to the large amount of freight offering for transportation. A very considerable portion of this business has been brought on to the main stem by the Northwestern Virginia branch from steamboats landing and receiving freight at Parkersburg.

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he saw Bernad, and told him that he had taken the Englishman's horse to Paris; to which Bernad answered, "I know that." Orsini stayed only three days in the Hotel de la Reine, No. 15. His horse, which he had sent to a manège, was afterwards brought to a stable belonging to the house. Moran and his wife, the concierges of the house, say that he often went out on horseback, and that at first he received very few visitors; Moran however remembers the names of Outreque and Hilde, who will be spoken of presently. Pierri soon appeared on the scene, calling himself a German, and then Orsini, passing for an Englishman; then Gomez, who was brought by Pierri to be Orsini's servant; and, lastly, de Radio, who represented himself as a traveller for a brewer.

The time at which these three last named persons left England to go to Paris is most distinctly proved, as well as the route they took, and the circumstances attending their journey. On January 6, 1858, Orsini and Gomez left Birmingham together; they stayed in London at Orsini's house, No. 2, Grafton street. Gomez declares that he there saw on a mantel-piece a shell which at that time was without caps or nipples. Bernad was there to receive them. He gave to Gomez the passport in the name of Stacey. Pierri had the passport already altered to which his real name had been altered to Pierri. After having left London on January 6, Pierri and Gomez landed at Calais at 1:45 A. M. on the 7th, by the English mail packet from Dover. They immediately left for Lille, where they arrived by railway in the course of the morning. Leaving Gomez at Lille for some hours, Pierri took a train at Brussels, where he arrived in time to pass the greater part of the day. Justice has not succeeded in learning altogether how he passed his time there, but it is certain that he brought away from Brussels with him another shell.

Pierri left Brussels on January 7, by the seven o'clock P. M. train for Paris. Gomez, who was waiting for him at the Lille Station, got into the train there, and the first they did on arriving in Paris was to go to Orsini's Rue Montbador, No. 10. Radio has given equally precise explanations as to himself. The person whom Pierri, in his letter, called on Christmas day, had told him would pay him a visit in London, called on him on January 2. This person was Bernad. He introduced himself to Radio, gave him 14s. told him that he would get him a passport, and said he was to hold himself in readiness to depart. On January 8 Bernad paid a second visit to Radio, and, not finding him at home, left with his wife a note which Radio was to take to No. 2 Grafton street, where he had said that something would be given him. Radio went to that address—the house of Orsini—and brought away with him a pair of gold spectacles, which were to be a token of recognition. The same evening Bernad came a third time to Radio's house, gave him 14s., a passport in the name of Bernad, and afterwards seized in the Rue Montbador, as stated above, and a ticket for Paris for the next morning. Accordingly, on Saturday, January 9, Radio left London, after being told by Bernad to go Rue Montbador, No. 10, as soon as he arrived in Paris, to ask for Allop, and to show him the gold spectacles in order to make himself known. In the evening of Sunday, January 10, Radio presented himself for the first time, at the Rue Montbador, No. 10, without finding Orsini, but he came again the next day and saw him. Thus the four principal accused parties were assembled in Paris, and ready to execute the crime which they had long before meditated and prepared.

The only thing now remaining to be done was to load the shells, the principal instruments of the crime to be executed. The fulminating powder employed for this purpose appears to have been made by Orsini himself, or at least with his assistance. It is proved that he had relations in England with a professor of chemistry, and that he received from him lessons and instructions, the object of which was, doubtless, not unperceived by the latter. Radio declares that Orsini always said that it was himself who had invented and made the fulminating powder which he used. Gomez is convinced of nothing, although Orsini never said anything to him on the subject. He says that the last time Orsini came from London to Birmingham, the inside of his hands and the tips of his fingers were turned, and he told Pierri that he had got these turns by his experiments. However, Orsini does not himself admit that he manufactured the powder. He pretends that it was made in London by some one whose name he will not mention; but he brought it himself from London to Belgium, and from Belgium to Paris; and gives a very circumstantial account of the precautions which he took. He placed the dangerous substance in his carpet-bag, after having wrapped it up in linen and paper, which he damped from time to time. The packet thus secured against explosion. The packet thus secured against explosion. The packet thus secured against explosion.

According to his account Radio only accompanied the other prisoners as far as the Boulevard, and as soon as he had got as far as the end of the Rue de la Paix, instead of going to the Rue Lepelletier, he took an opposite direction and threw his shell into the river Seine at the Pont de la Concorde. In his examination of Jan. 24, he admitted his confession. The parties to the plot were settled before they left the house; the charges were given to him and to Gomez. Orsini kept two which were of the same size as those of Bernad. It was arranged that Gomez was to throw the first shell. Radio the second, that Orsini was to act next, and Pierri last of all. When the Emperor's carriage approached the Rue Lepelletier, the conspirators had taken up positions on the foot pavement, in front of the principal entrance of the apartments. As soon as the first explosion proceeded from the shell thrown by Gomez was heard, Orsini said to Radio, "Throw yours." He did throw it, and then instantly took refuge in a small wine shop, from which he heard the third detonation, and from which he afterwards got away during the confusion that ensued.

The Georgetown College was founded in the year 1755, and its first principal was Rev. John Carroll afterwards the first Archbishop of Baltimore. In 1815 Congress raised it to the rank of a university. The medical department was opened in May, 1851, in Washington city and from a small beginning has become one of the most flourishing and well arranged institutions in the country. The College now numbers 311 students, and the medical department from 35 to 40 members, many of them eminent in their profession.—[Ct.]

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#### Early History of the Commonwealth.

We allude to the Hon. George Bancroft for the discovery, in the British State Paper Office, of full records of the proceedings of the first General Assembly of Virginia, convened by Sir George Yeardley, on the 30th July, 1619. The New York Historical Society has published this curious record, together with Mr. Bancroft's preface. From Yeardley's arrival, in 1619, the Commonwealth of Virginia dates its origin. For the twelve months previous, Virginia existed in a state of most dependent subjection—"languished under the government of Sir Thomas Smith, Treasurer of the Virginia Company in England." We are also informed that this government was of a despotic character, administered in such a manner that "the colonists suffered an extreme degree of distress too horrible to be described."

Wherever the Anglo-Saxon race has been subjected to "distress," arising from the incompetency of government, one sovereign remedy has ever been found available. That remedy is self-government. And herein we find the cause why the colony of Virginia first began to flourish under the administration of Governor Yeardley. He brought with him "commissions and instructions from the company for the better establishment of a Commonwealth here." He made proclamation "that those cruel laws, by which we had so long been governed were now abrogated, and that we are to be governed by those free laws, which his Majesty's subjects live under in England." And that they might force a law in the Government of themselves, it was granted that a General Assembly should be held yearly, once, whereat were to be present the Governor and Council with two Burgesses from each plantation, freely to be elected by the inhabitants thereof; this Assembly to have power to make and ordain whatsoever laws and orders should by them be thought good and profitable for our subsistence."

It is, indeed, astonishing, that our historians have been able to furnish us with no details concerning the mode in which this first step towards democratic Government was initiated. As Mr. Bancroft informs us, Captain John Smith gave but a "vague notice of the Assembly." Beverly "denies that there was any Assembly held there before May, 1620;" "the careful Smith" errs a little in the date, and was unable to find any record; "no traces of it were met with by Jefferson and Henning, and those who followed Henning, believed it no longer extant." Thanks to Mr. Bancroft's researches, we are at last advised how and when it was, that the people of Virginia began to exercise the right of self-government, before the Puritan fathers had set foot on the deck of the Mayflower. The record is entitled "A Report of the manner of proceedings in the General Assembly, begun at Jamestown, in Virginia, July 30th, 1619, consisting of the Governor, the Council, of State, and two Burgesses, elected out of each Incorporation and Plantation, & being dissolved the 4th of August next ensuing."

The Assembly convened in the "Quire of the church." Due attention was paid to all the etiquette of rank, in the manner of seating the Governor and the "Council of State," the Secretary of which was appointed Speaker, and seated opposite the Governor. We are also informed: "John Twine, clerk of the General Assembly being placed next the Speaker and Thomas Pierce, the Sergeant, standing at the Larre, to be ready for any service the Assembly should command him." The following paragraph sets forth the accustomed reverence and duty for which our ancestors were distinguished:—"But, forasmuch as men's affairs do lie together, where God's service is neglected, all the Burgesses took their places in the Quire till a prayer was said by Mr. Brooke, the Minister, that it would please God to guide and sanctify all our proceedings to his own glory, and the good of this plantation. Prayer being ended, to the intent that we had begun at God Almighty, so we might proceed with aweful and true respect towards his Lieutenant, our most gracious and dread Sovereign; all the Burgesses were in treated to retire themselves into the body of the Church, which being done, before they were fully assembled, they were called in order and by name, and so every man (none staggering at it), took the oath of Supremacy and then entered the Assembly."

The qualifications of Burgesses were strictly scrutinized. The Speaker took exception at "Captain Ward," as having planted here in Virginia, without authority or commission from the Treasurer, Council and company in England." But after much debate, and in consideration of many circumstances, including the eminent services of Captain Ward (among which is cited his having "brought home a good quantity of fish, to relieve the colony, by way of trade," &c., &c., himself and his lieutenant were admitted immediately to take their seats as Burgesses—provided, however, that he should with all possible despatch procure from England a "commission lawfully to establish and plant himself and his company as the chiefs of other plantations have done."

The Governor himself objected against the admission of "Captain Martin's Burgesses," unless that gentleman would voluntarily relinquish the privileges of his patent, which rendered him and his company independent of the general government of the colony. Capt. Martin accordingly commanded by order of the General Assembly, to afford the option, to withdraw his representatives or resign his exclusive privileges. With a jealous care of his corporate immunities, which would delight a State Rights Democrat of the present day, the stout Captain chose the former alternative.

We are also presented with an instance of the manner in which it was usual, in those days, to assist patriarchal with municipal authority:—"This morning a third sort of laws (such as might proceed out of every man's private conceits) were read and referred by halves to the same Committees which were from the beginning. This done, Captain William Powell presented a Petition to the Assembly a return, to have justice against a Jew and treacherous servant of his; who by false accusation given up in writing to the Governor, sought not only to get him deposed from his government of James City, and utterly (according to the Proclamation) to be degraded from the place and title of a Captain; but to take his life from him also. And so out of the said Petition arising this order following:—"Captain William Powell presented a Petition to the General Assembly, against one Thomas Garnett, a Servant of his, not only for extreme neglect of his business, to the great loss and prejudice of the said Captain, & for openly and impudently abusing his house in sight of both Master and Mistress, through wantonness with a woman servant of theirs, a wife who had also for several years been in the Governor's household, and had borne him children, and besides for bringing all his fellow servants to certify on his side, wherein they justly failed him; it was thought fit by the General Assembly (the Governor himself giving sentence) that he should stand four days with his ears nailed to the Pillory, viz: Wednesday, April 4th and so likewise, Thursday, Friday and Saturday next following; and every of those four days should be publicly whipped."

"Now as touching the neglects of his work, that satisfaction ought to be made to Mr. F. for that, is referred to the Governor and Council of State."

The main business of the Assembly was carried on with admirable system and

despatch. Two committees were appointed on the first day of the session, to consider the "great charter or constitution of laws, orders and laws," namely, of the case should find ought not perfectly wronging the state